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Current Support Brief

DECLASSIFICATION REVIEW by NIMA/DOD

HOUND HELICOPTERS
PRODUCED AT SARATOV AIRFRAME PLANT NO. 292



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GROUP 1
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HOUND HELICOPTERS
PRODUCED AT SARATOV AIRFRAME PLANT NO. 292

A manual on the ASh-82V engine used in the Hound (Mi-4) helicopter has revealed that Saratov Airframe Plant No. 292 was involved in producing this aircraft at some time before it entered production at Kazan' Airframe Plant No. 387.

In giving instructions for adjusting the supercharger on the ASh-82V engine, the manual states:

For changing the magnitude of supercharging: for the regulation of the length of rods Z, change the dimension 32.5 to the dimension 30 on machines of the production of Plant No. 387, and on the machines from [beginning with] the fifth series of Plant No. 292; for the regulation of the length of rods Z, change the dimension 24.0 to the dimension 22.5 on machines from the first through the fourth series of the production of Plant No. 292. 1/

The above instructions clearly indicate that at least four series of Hound helicopters, not affected by a subsequent change in the engine design, were produced at Plant No. 292 before the helicopter entered production at Plant No. 387. In addition, the reference to a fifth series of Hound helicopters from Plant No. 292 suggests that at least 50 of these helicopters were produced at the Saratov facility. * 2/

Previously unconfirmed reports stated that Plant No. 292 produced the Hound helicopter from 1952 to 1954, at which time production was transferred to Kazan'. It also was reported on one occasion that the plant produced 200 Hound helicopters and on another that the plant produced 300 such aircraft. On the basis of aircraft production methodology, it is estimated that during 1952-54 Plant No. 292 produced approximately 200 Hound helicopters.

Until recently, it was estimated that before 1954, the year in which the Hound helicopter entered production at Plant No. 387, prototype production of the helicopter took place at Moscow Airframe Plant No. 82. It is now believed that Plant No. 292 was in fact the pilot plant for the Hound helicopter.

* It is assumed that Plant No. 292 numbered Hound helicopters in consecutive bands of 10 aircraft each.

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Sources:

- [REDACTED]
2. CIA. CIA/MCB 64-22, Production of Mi-4 Hound Helicopters
at Plant No. 292, Saratov, USSR, 1951-53 (to be published)
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